

What is claimed is:

1. A gas delivery mask comprising:
a mask shell; and
a forehead support comprising:
a support arm associated with the mask shell,
a forehead support bracket, and
a connecting assembly coupling the forehead support bracket to the support arm such that the forehead support bracket is self-aligning on a patient as the mask is donned by such a patient.
2. The mask of claim 1, further comprising an adjustment assembly for adjusting the relative position of the forehead support and the mask shell such that the forehead support is moveable in at least two dimensions relative to the mask shell.
3. The mask of claim 2, wherein the adjustment assembly includes an arcuate attaching member associated with the mask shell, and wherein a first portion of the support arm is moveably mounted to the arcuate attaching member.
4. The mask of claim 3, wherein the adjustment assembly includes a plurality of teeth disposed on the arcuate attaching member, and wherein the first portion of the support arm includes a flexible portion adapted to engage at least one of the plurality of teeth.
5. The mask of claim 1, wherein the connecting assembly includes an arcuate track associated with the forehead support bracket and a track engaging member disposed on a portion of the support arm, and wherein the track engaging member is operatively coupled to the arcuate track so as to move along the arcuate track during self-aligning of the forehead support bracket on such a patient.

6. A gas delivery mask comprising:
a mask shell;
a forehead support having a support arm associated with the mask shell
and a forehead support bracket coupled to the support arm; and
an adjustment assembly for adjusting a relative position of the forehead
support and the mask shell such that the forehead support is moveable in at least two
dimensions relative to the mask.

7. The mask of claim 6, wherein the adjustment assembly includes an arcuate attaching member associated with the mask shell, and wherein a first portion of the support arm is moveably mounted to the arcuate attaching member.

8. The mask of claim 7, wherein the adjustment assembly includes a plurality of teeth disposed on the arcuate attaching member, and wherein the first portion of the support arm includes a flexible portion adapted to engage at least one of the plurality of teeth.

9. A gas delivery mask comprising:
a mask shell; and
a forehead support comprising:
a support arm associated with the mask shell,
a forehead support bracket, and
a coupling system attaching the support arm to the forehead
support bracket such that the forehead support bracket is detachable from the
support arm while the mask is being worn by a patient.

10. The mask of claim 9, further comprising an adjustment assembly for adjusting the relative position of the forehead support and the mask shell such that the forehead support is moveable in at least two dimensions relative to the mask shell.

11. The mask of claim 10, wherein the adjustment assembly includes an arcuate attaching member associated with the mask shell, and wherein a first portion of the support arm is moveably mounted to the arcuate attaching member.

12. The mask of claim 11, wherein the adjustment assembly includes a plurality of teeth disposed on the arcuate attaching member, and wherein the first portion of the support arm includes a flexible portion adapted to engage at least one of the plurality of teeth.

13. The mask of claim 9, wherein the coupling system includes:
a slot defined in a portion of the support arm;
a cut defined in a portion of the support arm extending from the slot at a predetermined angle so as to provide access to the slot; and
a connecting bracket associated with the forehead support bracket, wherein the connecting bracket is sized and configured to be removeably placed within the slot by passing through the cut at the predetermined angle, and wherein the connecting bracket is rotateable within the slot responsive to being positioned therein.

14. A forehead support adapted to be secured to a gas delivery mask, the forehead support comprising:
a forehead support bracket; and
a connector associated with the forehead support bracket adapted to connect a headgear strap to the forehead support bracket such that the headgear strap spans a length of a patient's forehead to define at least a portion of a cushion between the forehead support bracket and such a patient's forehead.

15. The forehead support of claim 14, further comprising a headgear strap coupled to the connector.

16. A method of donning a gas delivery mask having a mask shell and support arm coupled thereto comprising

- providing a headgear having upper headgear straps, a forehead support bracket coupled to the upper headgear straps, and lower headgear straps;
- donning the upper headgear strap on a head of a patient;
- orienting the gas delivery mask such that a mask shell is spaced apart from a face of a patient and a forehead support is proximate to the forehead support bracket;
- connecting the forehead support to the forehead support bracket;
- rotating the gas delivery mask into place on the face of a patient; and
- connecting the lower headgear straps to the gas delivery mask.

17. A method of removing a gas delivery mask from a patient, comprising:

- disconnecting lower headgear straps of a headgear from the gas delivery mask;
- rotating the gas delivery mask by moving a mask shell away from a face of a patient while a support arm of the gas delivery mask remains coupled to a forehead support bracket associated with an upper headgear strap being worn by such a patient;
- and
- disconnecting the support arm of the gas delivery mask from the forehead support bracket.